



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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June 12, 2003

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist 

RE: Significance of Cultural Resource Site 42SA25405, H & H Stone, Holley Project, S/037/117, San Juan County, Utah

On April 28, 2003, the Division received a cultural resources survey report for the referenced mine. The survey recorded two sites within the project area, but the archaeologist did not consider either to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The next day, April 29, 2003, I wrote an electronic mail message to Jim Dykman with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) asking for his concurrence with the report's conclusion, and he responded, "No Historic Properties Affected. 03.29.03". Based on this, the Division informed the operator that the Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations was considered complete.

On June 3, 2003, the Division received a copy of a letter from Mr. Dykman to Kenny Wintch with the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration saying site 42SA25405 should be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places based on criterion d. The letter also said, "USHPO would not recommend a determination of No Historic Property Affected for the project until eligibility of SA 25405 is finalized by agencies involved in the project." (The cultural resources report listed the site in question as 42SA25407, but this was apparently a typographical error.)

Because of the conflict between Mr. Dykman's letter and his e mail, I called and spoke with him on June 12, 2003. He said, in effect, that there is a difference of opinion between three professional archaeologists and that since the permits had already been issued, he didn't think it was necessary to put a stipulation on the approval or anything like that. He didn't feel the site was important enough to go through the process of making an eligibility determination.

In spite of this, I telephoned the operator on June 12, 2003, and spoke with Andrea Holley about the possibility of not disturbing the site. She was not certain whether the mine plan includes mining that specific area but was going to ask. I requested that, if possible, the operator avoid the area where this site is located.

jb

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